

local law enforcement and federal immigration authorities. But in attempting to defund “sanctuary cities” and require state and local law enforcement to carry out the federal government’s immigration enforcement responsibilities, the federal government would be substituting its judgment for the judgment of state and local law enforcement agencies. Local control has been a beneficial approach for law enforcement for decades—having the federal government compel state and local law enforcement to carry out new and sometimes problematic tasks undermines the delicate federal balance and will harm locally-based policing.

Rather than requiring state and local law enforcement agencies to engage in additional immigration enforcement activities, Congress should focus on overdue reforms of the broken immigration system to allow state and local law enforcement to focus their resources on true threats—dangerous criminals and criminal organizations. We believe that state and local law enforcement must work together with federal authorities to protect our communities and that we can best serve our communities by leaving the enforcement of immigration laws to the federal government. Threatening the removal of valuable grant funding that contributes to the health and well-being of communities across the nation would not make our communities safer and would not fix any part of our broken immigration system.

Our immigration problem is a national problem deserving of a national approach, and we continue to recognize that what our broken system truly needs is a permanent legislative solution—broad-based immigration reform.

Sincerely,

Chief Chris Magnus, Tucson, AZ
Chief Roy Minter, Peoria, AZ
Chief Sylvia Moir, Tempe, AZ
Ret. Chief Roberto Villasenor, Tucson, AZ
Chief Charlie Beck, Los Angeles, CA
Ret. Chief James Lopez, Los Angeles County, CA

Sheriff Margaret Mims, Fresno County, CA
Sheriff Mike Chitwood, Volusia County, FL
Sheriff Paul Fitzgerald, Story County, IA
Chief Wayne Jerman, Cedar Rapids, IA
Sheriff Bill McCarthy, Polk County, IA
Public Safety Director, Mark Prosser, Storm Lake, IA
Sheriff Lonny Pulkrabek, Johnson County, IA

Chief Mike Tupper, Marshalltown, IA
Chief William Bones, Boise, ID
Ret. Chief Ron Teachman, South Bend, IN
Ret. Chief James Hawkins, Garden City, KS
Commissioner William Evans, Boston, MA
Chief Ken Ferguson, Framingham, MA
Chief Brian Kyes, Chelsea, MA
Chief Tom Manger, Montgomery County, MD
Chief Todd Axtell, Saint Paul, MN
Sheriff Eli Rivera, Cheshire County, NH
Chief Richard Biehl, Dayton, OH
Chief Cel Rivera, Lorain, OH
Public Safety Commissioner Steven Pare, Providence, RI

Chief William Holbrook, Columbia, SC
Sheriff Leon Lott, Richland County, SC
Ret. Chief Fred Fletcher, Chattanooga, TN
Chief Art Acevedo, Houston, TX
Sheriff Edward Gonzalez, Harris County, TX
Sheriff Sally Hernandez, Travis County, TX
Chief Brian Manley, Austin, TX
Sheriff Lupe Valdez, Dallas County, TX
Ret. Chief Chris Burbank, Salt Lake City, UT

Chief Kathleen O’Toole, Seattle, WA
Sheriff John Urquhart, King County, WA
Asst. Chief Randy Gaber, Madison, WI
Chief Michael Koval, Madison, WI
Chief Todd Thomas, Appleton, WI

*Signatures updated as of June 28, 2017 5 PM ET.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TED LIEU

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 14, 2017

Mr. TED LIEU of California. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained on July 13, 2017 during the Roll Call No. 369 vote, the Hartzler Amendment No. 10 to H.R. 2810.

Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 369.

COMMEMORATING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF PEORIA HEIGHTS FIRE DEPARTMENT

HON. DARIN LAHOOD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 14, 2017

Mr. LAHOOD. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize Peoria Heights Fire Department of Peoria, Illinois, for celebrating their 100th Anniversary.

In 1917, Peoria Heights Fire Department was chartered to provide protection for the village and its inhabitants. Since then, the department has grown immensely; it now provides fire suppression, fire prevention, technical rescue response, and emergency medical services. Over the past 100 years, these men and women have shown their dedication and service to the greater Peoria area by working countless hours to keep our neighbors, friends, and families safe.

Peoria Heights Fire Department protects a total of 6,800 inhabitants and is known throughout Central Illinois for their hard work, dedication, and sacrifice. Today, we thank and celebrate them for their dedication to serving the greater Peoria area. I extend my sincere congratulations to Peoria Heights Fire Department for a successful 100 years, and I wish them another 100 years of success and good fortune.

RECOGNIZING THE MEN AND WOMEN OF ALABAMA ARMY NATIONAL GUARD’S 115TH EXPEDITIONARY SIGNAL BATTALION ON THEIR DEPLOYMENT TO THE MIDDLE EAST

HON. ROBERT B. ADERHOLT

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 14, 2017

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize the men and women who proudly make up the Alabama Army National Guard’s 115th Expeditionary Signal Battalion as they deploy to the Middle East in defense of our nation.

The 115th has a rich history of service to America. The unit was organized in December 1940 as the 2nd Battalion, 151st Engineers, a little less than a year before our nation would enter World War Two.

In early 1941, the unit was called into federal service to participate in maneuvers in Louisiana as the War Department geared up for the threat of war.

In January of 1942, just after America entered the war, the unit moved to Alaska to help protect American territory from the Japanese. Service during World War Two also included deployments to England and France. The unit would be called into federal service once more in 1963.

The men and women of the 115th would again answer our nation’s call to service after the attacks of September 11, 2001 amidst our efforts to neutralize terrorist threats around the world.

The first call to support the War on Terrorism would be in 2003 as part of Operation Iraqi Freedom, returning home in 2005. Then, in 2011, the unit would be sent to Afghanistan as part of Operation Enduring Freedom.

Now, in 2017, like so many Alabama Guard Units, the 115th which has companies in Florence, Haleyville and Huntsville, is once again standing up to serve our nation. The unit will be sent to the Middle East to support and defend our nation’s vital interests abroad.

Mr. Speaker, Congress’ appreciation along with our continued admiration for these men and women and the service they provide to the United States of America are reflected here today.

HONORING THE LIFE AND ACHIEVEMENTS OF ROSEANN BURKART SERRANO

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 14, 2017

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and achievements of Mrs. RoseAnn Burkart Serrano. Mrs. Serrano dedicated her life to serving her family and her community. She was a volunteer, member, manager, board member, and president of many organizations, both in Le Grand and in the surrounding areas of Chowchilla, Merced, Fresno, Mariposa, and Planada. Mrs. Serrano is a shining example of what it means to make a difference in the world, and she serves as a model of determination and selflessness for all who knew her.

Born in Fresno, Mrs. Serrano graduated from San Joaquin Memorial High School in 1962 before earning a degree in Liberal Studies from Fresno City College. Mrs. Serrano continued her education at California State University, Fresno, where she was a music and history major. At Fresno State, Mrs. Serrano served as the district secretary for the college Catholic organization and met her future husband, David Serrano, through her membership in the Newman Club at the St. Paul Newman Center. After their marriage, Mrs. Serrano began working with her husband at his agricultural business, and she soon became an integral part of Serrano Farms. Besides being a full-time homemaker and mother, Mrs. Serrano irrigated, ran machinery in their almond orchards and cotton fields, and managed the farm’s business records and payroll.

In addition to her role at Serrano Farms, Mrs. Serrano was active in numerous organizations, such as California Women for Agriculture, USDA Farm Services Agency Committee, the National Federation of Independent Business, and the Plainsburg Elementary

School Board. Mrs. Serrano also volunteered in more local settings, from planning the Le Grand Community Day and Our Lady of Lourdes Parish Dinner, to serving on the Plainsburg Election Board and helping the Plainsburg Library. Additionally, Mrs. Serrano was a regular accompanist and choir singer at Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church, where she became the local go-to pianist and organist for weddings and funerals.

Mrs. Serrano was recognized for her accomplishments and service on numerous occasions. In 1994, she and her husband were awarded the State of California Governor's Small Business Award for Small Business Person of the Year. In 2008, they were also recognized as Le Grand Community Day Citizens of the Year. In 2014, the California Agricultural Leadership Foundation at California State University, Fresno selected Mrs. Serrano as a "Common Threads Honoree," honoring her for community service and philanthropic endeavors.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the life and achievements of Mrs. RoseAnn Burkart Serrano. The Merced community mourns Mrs. Serrano's passing, but rejoices in her lasting impact and legacy. She could always tell when someone needed her help or a smile, and she was always willing to extend her hand in friendship and open her heart with compassion. Her wisdom, mentorship, and persevering spirit continue to inspire her family and countless others to strive for excellence and serve their communities.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LUIS V. GUTIÉRREZ

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 14, 2017

Mr. GUTIÉRREZ. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent in the House chamber for Roll Call vote 367 on Thursday, July 13, 2017. Had I been present, I would have voted No on Roll Call vote 367.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2018

SPEECH OF

HON. DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 13, 2017

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2810) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2018 for military activities of the Department of Defense and for military construction, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes:

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Mr. Chair, I strongly oppose the Perry amendment, that would strike section 336 of the National Defense Authorization Act bill under consideration by the House.

Section 336 is a commonsense and essential provision that simply acknowledges the fact that climate change is an urgent and direct threat not only to our national security, but

also to our armed forces and our military installations around the world. This amendment would weaken our national security by preventing our military from planning and preparing to best meet these threats.

Despite the consensus view of the world's climate scientists that human actions are accelerating climate changes through our excessive carbon emissions, there continue to be some Members of this body that hope if we don't assess the threat too closely, it will go away.

As Members of this body, we have sworn to protect the public welfare from all threats, foreign and domestic. And make no mistake, our changing climate—fueled by humanity's enormous carbon emissions—is exactly such a threat.

But don't take my word for it. The words of Defense Secretary James Mattis that are included in the text of this bill are instructive, and deleting them through this amendment will make them no less true. He said, "I agree that the effects of a changing climate—such as increased maritime access to the Arctic, rising sea levels, desertification, among others—impact our security situation . . . [and] it is appropriate . . . to incorporate drivers of instability that impact the security environment . . . into [our] planning."

And as former Chief of Staff of the U.S. Army Gordon Sullivan has stated: "Climate change is a national security issue. We found that climate instability will lead to instability in geopolitics and impact American military operations around the world."

The bipartisan language of section 336 goes on to state that, "a three-foot rise in sea levels will threaten the operations of more than 128 United States military sites, and it is possible that many of these at-risk bases could be submerged in the coming years."

For my district in South Florida, we don't have to look to the future to see the threat posed by rising temperatures. Climate change is a threat today. Sea levels have already risen nine inches in the last several decades and, according to FIU's Sea Level Solutions Center, we could see up to another six inches of sea level rise in just over a dozen years.

Today "king tides" cause flooding in low-lying communities several times a year. We cannot afford another six inches, let alone another three feet of ocean water. And our marine ecosystems and corals are also under attack from increased acidification caused by carbon dioxide absorption in ocean waters.

As Members of Congress, we have a duty to the taxpayers of this country not only to protect our communities from the worst effects of climate change, but also to ensure that we spend wisely on national defense and international assistance for humanitarian and disaster response.

It is therefore imperative that our military leaders be allowed to assess the vulnerabilities to our military installations and ensure we build in resiliency so that our military is ready to meet the challenges ahead. Simply put, we should give our military leaders the tools they need to protect the American public.

Section 336 does exactly that and this amendment must be rejected.

Whether out of concern for our national defense, our public health, our environment, the economic well-being of our communities, or for all of these reasons, I urge my colleagues to oppose this ill-advised amendment.

RECOGNIZING OUR NATION'S COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS PROFESSIONALS DURING PRETRIAL, PROBATION AND PAROLE SUPERVISION WEEK 2017

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 14, 2017

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the nation's community corrections professionals and the vital role they play in enhancing public safety throughout the United States. In honor of the invaluable contributions of these dedicated public servants, the American Probation and Parole Association (APPA) and its associated members have designated the week of July 17 through 23 "Pretrial, Probation and Parole Supervision Week 2017." I thank the thousands of men and women who perform these important public safety duties, and urge my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in support of APPA's week-long recognition efforts this year.

In my congressional district, the nation's capital, thousands of women and men serve as pretrial, probation and parole officers or administrators. As public servants, these constituents, along with many other Americans, commit themselves on a daily basis to helping improve the lives of those involved in the criminal justice system. The work of these professionals ultimately results in stronger and safer communities for all.

Community corrections professionals are responsible for the supervision of adult and juvenile offenders in communities throughout our nation. These trained professionals go above and beyond the call of duty by connecting their clients to supportive services, community-based resources, employment opportunities, housing programs and other evidence-based practices that help individuals successfully complete supervision and reenter society. Community corrections professionals strive to provide these services and support, while simultaneously providing client surveillance, crime prevention and restorative justice.

In honor of Pretrial, Probation and Parole Supervision Week 2017, I take the opportunity to recognize those who carry out community corrections and supervision services here in the District of Columbia, including the officers and professionals of the Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency for the District of Columbia (CSOSA).

CSOSA and the Pretrial Services Agency for the District of Columbia (PSA) are dedicated to reducing recidivism and enhancing public safety in the nation's capital. CSOSA and PSA are recognized as model community supervision entities because of their use of evidence-based practices and community partnerships.

On any given day, CSOSA is responsible for supervising approximately 11,000 individuals on probation, parole or supervised release, while PSA supervises over 17,000 defendants over the course of a year. Charged with having to balance issues of public safety with social services and reentry support, the employees of CSOSA and PSA help to enhance the security of everyone who lives, works or visits the District.

Mr. Speaker, again, I extend my gratitude to these public servants for their commitment,